

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 12742

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UR

SUBJ: JEWISH NEW YEAR IN MOSCOW

1. NEW YEAR SERVICES AT ARKHIPOV STREET SYNAGOGUE WERE HELD WITH ONLY ONE MINOR INCIDENT. POLICE WERE OUT IN FORCE, AND AS USUAL ON HOLIDAYS DIRECTED TRAFFIC (TAXI TRAFFIC CLEARLY ORGANIZED) UP ARKHIPOV STREET, MAKING IT DIFFICULT FOR JEWS TO DANCE IN STREET. PASSING CAR HIT A YOUNG GIRL WHO WAS TAKEN TO HOSPITAL. SITUATION THEN BECAME TENSE AND POLICE CLOSED STREET TO TRAFFIC BRIEFLY. THERE WERE NO MAJOR

INCIDENTS SATURDAY MORNING.

2. FRIDAY EVENING ATTENDANCE WAS ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF 1974. ATTENDANCE WAS SO TIGHT THAT DOORS REMAINED OPEN UNLIKE LAST YEAR. WOMEN'S GALLERY WAS ONLY QUARTER FILLED SINCE TICKETS WERE DEMANDED AND FEW HAD THEM. NO MEMBERS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS MOVEMENT WERE OBSERVED AT THE SYNAGOGUE UNLIKE

SITUATION IN 1974.

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